THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Indian council of Agricultural Research and State Agricultural Universities have developed several varieties of different crops that are suited for water stress conditions.

Also, several ongoing resource conservation programmes of the Ministry of Agriculture are likely to help in mitigating effects of the climate change.

(b) The State Governments are advised to draw up detailed "Contingency Crop Plans" in consultation with the State Agriculture Universities so as to effectively manage situation arising from aberrations in monsoons. These Plans are required to include, among others, detailed crop/varietal planning and arrangement for seeds of short duration varieties/crops.

Crop strategy due to delayed monsoon

1699. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any alternate crop stretegy has been chalked out for badly affected States due to delayed monsoon;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other proposed rational method of supporting the income of farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) State Governments have been advised to prepare contigency plans, during the year of delayed monsoon, to chalk out suitable alternative crop strategies. Accordingly States have developed there own alternative location specific strategies for copping under such aberrant situation.

(c) In the price policy for kharif and rabi crops of 2002-03, special drought relief has been provided keeping in view drought in the country. A statement showing minimum support price and special drought relief announced by the Government, is enclosed.

Statement

Commodity-wise Minimum Support Prices
(According to Crop Year)

(Rs. per quintal)

No.	Commodity	Variety	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	Special Drought relief price	(#) increase in MSP 2002-03 over 2001-02
1.	Paddy	Common	440	490	510	530	530	20	—
		Grade 'A'	470	520	540	560	560	20	—
2.	Jowar		390	415	445	485	485	5	—
3.	Bajra		390	415	445	485	485	10	—
4.	Maize		390	415	445	485	485	5	—
5.	Ragi		390	415	445	485	485	5	—
6.	Wheat		550	580	610	620	620	10	—
7.	Barley		385	430	500	500	500	5	—
8.	Gram		895	1015	1100	1200	1250	2	20(1.7)
9.	Arhar (Tur)		960	1105	1200	1320	1320	5	—
10.	Moong		960	1105	1200	1320	1330	5	10(0.8)
11.	Urad		960	1105	1200	1320	1330	5	10(0.8)
12.	Masur (Lentil)		—	—	1200	1300	1320	5	20(1.5)
13.	Sugarcane@		52.70	56.10	59.50	62.05	69.50		7.45(12.0)
14.	Cotton	F-414/H-777/J34,	1440	1575	1625	1675	1675	20	—
		H-4	1650	1775	1825	1875	1875	20	—
15.	Groundnut in Shell		1040	1155	1220	1340	1365	20	15 (1.1)
16.	Jute		650	750	785	810	850		40(4.9)
17.	Rapeseed/ Mustard		1000	1100	1200	1300	1330	10	30(2.3)
18.	Sunflower Seed		1060	1155	1170	1185	1195	15	10(0.8)
19.	soyabeen	Black	705	755	775	795	795	10	—
		Yellow	795	845	865	885	885	10	—

No.	Commodity	Variety	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	Special Drought relief	(#) increase in MSP 2002-03 over 2001-02
20.	Safflower		990	1100	1200	1300	1300	5	—
21.	Toria		965	1065	1165	1265	—		
22.	Tobacco (VFC)	Black soil (F2Gr)	22.50	25.00	26.00	27.00	25.00		1(3.7)
	(Rs. per kg.)	Light Soil (L2 Gr)	25.50	27.00	28.00	29.00	30.00		1(3.4)
23.	Copra	Milling	2900	3100	3250	3300	3300		—
	(Calender Year)	Ball	3125	3325	3500	3550	3550		—
24.	Sesamum		1060	1205	1300	1400	1450	5	50(3.6)
25.	Nigerseed		850	915	1025	1100	1120		20(1.8)

@ Statutory Minimum Price linked to a basic recovery of 8.5 percent with proportionate premium for every 0.1 percent increase in recovery above that level.

The MSP for masur (lentil) has been fixed from the crop year 2000-01.

figures in brackets indicate percentage increase.

National Agriculture Insurance Scheme

1700. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of States that have opted for National Agriculture Insurance Scheme of the Central Government;

(b) what are the main features of the scheme;

(c) the share of premium paid by the Centre and the concerned States for the scheme; and

(d) what are the other details of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) 21 States and 2 Union Territories have opted for the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme